

# Rhode Island's Career Resource Network News Corner

Volume 5, No.2 Summer 2005

*Support for Academic and Career Counseling Programs*



## Career Resource Network Services Ending in Rhode Island

*Rhode Island Career Resource Network services and products  
will not be available after June 2006.*

The CRN staff is acutely aware of the impact this will have on many schools and other agencies that depend on CRN services and products. This issue of the CRN News Corner is devoted to providing information on resources that will continue to be available from other sources.

The provision of quality career education for students and adults is important to education and to workforce development. A survey of research for the America's Career Resource Network Association (ACRNA) showed that students/adults who are well informed and have clearly defined career goals are more likely to enroll in academically rigorous programs, have better grades, better attendance, lower dropout rates, and higher levels of satisfaction with school. Society benefits from decreased use of social benefit programs, lower poverty rates, higher likelihood of voting, longer lifespan, and greater community involvement. Employees and employers benefit from reduction in occupational mismatch, job dissatisfaction, and job-related stress and depression. (For more information, [www.acrna.net](http://www.acrna.net), "Publications")

The Rhode Island CRN has assisted schools and other organizations to provide programs which attain these goals, and also to meet the requirements of K-12 comprehensive counseling, the standards of the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), and the high school regulations of the RI Department of Education.

The CRN program has been funded under the Perkins Act, Section 118, "Occupational and Employment Information," and assigned to the US Department of Education. The Department of Education named it America's Career Resource Network (ACRN). The program provided funding to each state and territory, usually to either the state's education department or labor department, to "support academic and career guidance."

Congress passed legislation authorizing Occupational and Employment Information for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2006, but did not include funding for the program. States were told to find other sources of financial support.

Funding for the national ACRN program will not end for at least another year, so the program will continue at the national level without providing grants to the states. In most states this is resulting in a reduction of services, and sometimes charging for products which had previously been free. In Rhode Island this was not feasible, and no other funding has been found, so the decision was made to end the operation of the RI Career Resource Network.

America's Career Resource Network Association (ACRNA) is a membership association which does not receive federal funding, and will continue all operations without interruption. A major ACRNA activity is working with Congress, in cooperation with the American School Counselor Association and many other professional groups. The federal budget for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2007, is now being developed, and ACRNA is requesting Congress to restore funding for Occupational and Employment Information. If you would like to be informed about and assist in this effort, join the ACRNA Legislative Listserv. A signup form can be downloaded from [www.dlt.ri.gov/crn/acrna.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/crn/acrna.htm).

**The staff of the RI Career Resource Network has been pleased to help schools and organizations meet the challenges of providing quality career education.**

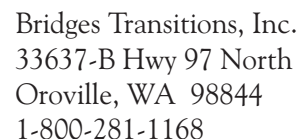


**Training** - There are no plans for future training in Rhode Island. However, members of the Real Game Operating Committee have indicated that an attempt will be made to provide training for those states which do not have a functioning CRN. This may involve traveling to other states for training and paying a larger fee.

Information may be found at [www.careerconsultingconcepts.com](http://www.careerconsultingconcepts.com). Questions may be addressed to Ellen at [ellen@careerconsultingconcepts.com](mailto:ellen@careerconsultingconcepts.com). Information on the curriculum is at [www.ncda.org](http://www.ncda.org). Information on the GCDF certification may be found at [www.cce-global.org](http://www.cce-global.org).

# Computer Assisted Career Guidance

**Ordering** - Programs currently used in Rhode Island schools are produced by Bridges Transitions Co. All orders should be sent directly to that company at:



**Information** - Information on programs, training, and other support is on the Bridges web site, [www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com).



# What's New in the CRN Corner?



## Posters, Brochures and CDs

The CRN has produced a number of posters, brochures, and CDs for career educators and parents.

**Posters** - The CRN has produced 11 x 17 inch posters on (1) the importance of education, (2) the SCANS (employability) skills, (3) Career Clusters, and (4) suggestions for parents. The education and clusters posters are also available in Spanish and in 8.5 x 11 inch tri-fold brochures.

**Publications for Parents** - Sixteen brochures for parents from preschool through high school are available on the CRN web site for viewing or download. The same brochures in a national edition are available in English and Spanish on the ACRN web site, [www.acrnetwork.org](http://www.acrnetwork.org). A 72-page publication for parents, the Career Anchor Parent Guide, is available only on the CRN web site, [www.dlt.ri.gov/crn](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/crn).

**CDs** - The CDs provided by the CRN are no longer available. Parts of the Parent Toolkit are available on the ACRN web site, [www.acrnetwork.org](http://www.acrnetwork.org). Titles include:

Career Development of Students in a Changing World  
(Phil Jarvis, 2004)  
Hurricane Katrina 2005  
Parent Toolkit



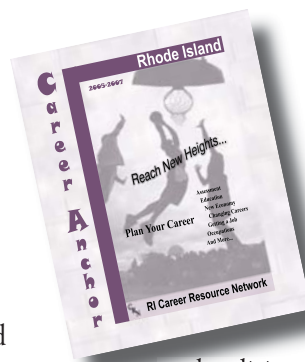
## Other Training

**Improved Career Decision Making** - This one or two-day workshop has been offered by the CRN (and earlier by RIOICC) for many years. It is a nationally developed program originally designed to acquaint participants with resources of the US Department of Labor and the RI Dept. of Labor and Training, and in recent years expanded to include other resources.

Support is no longer available for this program either at the national level or in Rhode Island. Those interested should consult the web site of America's Career Resource Network Association at [www.acrna.net](http://www.acrna.net).

**Smart Options** - Smart Options is a program based on Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences. It can be implemented in four class periods of 60-90 minutes. Designed for use with middle school students, it can also be used with high school students or adults.

There is no training or other support available in Rhode Island.



## Rhode Island Career Anchor and Rhode Island Career Navigator

For many years the CRN and its predecessor, RIOICC, have published the Rhode Island Career Anchor for use with high school students and adults. Approximately 35,000 copies of each edition have been distributed to high schools, higher education institutions, and others.

In 2006, after several years in preparation, the Rhode Island Career Navigator for use with middle school students, was completed.

There are no plans to update or reprint either of these publications

### To Obtain Additional Copies

Copies of each publication will be available until the supply is exhausted from the Labor Market Information Unit of the Department of Labor and Training at 401-462-8740.

## Miscellaneous Information Services

The CRN has gathered a large collection of publications, documents, and other materials related to career education. Many of these are products of the CRNs in other states or from various professional organizations. This collection has been valuable when, as happened almost daily, a counselor, teacher, or other person called with questions or in search of resources.

## Alternate Sources of Information

In addition to searching the Internet, members of the Rhode Island School Counselor Association (RISCA) may get suggestions from colleagues through the listserv of that organization.

Educators looking for materials or activities for classroom use may find what they are seeking in a resource library maintained at the Southern Rhode Island Collaborative in North Kingstown. Call 295-2888 or email [sorico@ride.ri.net](mailto:sorico@ride.ri.net) for information.

The CRNs in other states have web sites which often include publications which can be downloaded. The addresses of these sites are included in the "State Info." section of the ACRN web site, [www.acrnetwork.org](http://www.acrnetwork.org).



## A Web Site Worth Surfing:

This space usually recommends a web site of value to career educators. In this edition several web sites are suggested as sources of information in the absence of the CRN.



### RI CRN [www.dlt.ri.gov/crn](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/crn)

Although the CRN may be closed, the web site, with recent revisions, will be left up for a time to provide information about how educators can take advantage of the CRN programs even though the office is closed. This site will not be revised.

### ACRN [www.acrnetwork.org](http://www.acrnetwork.org)

The web site of America's Career Resource Network (under the US Department of Education) contains support material for the National Career Development Guidelines, the classroom activity Career Decision Making Tool, and an assortment of databases, news items, and other material for career educators. It also contains a database of information on the CRN programs in each state and territory, many of which contain the full text of useful publications.

### ACRNA [www.acrna.net](http://www.acrna.net)

The web site of America's Career Resource Network Association contains information of value to career educators, including attempts to influence Congress to restore funding "Occupational and Employment Information" (the CRNs) for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2007. Members of the Association are working to expand and improve this web site, and to take over the major functions of the ACRN web site should it be closed in the future.

**Other web sites mentioned in this edition of the CRN News Corner are:**

[www.acsci.org](http://www.acsci.org)

Association of Computer-based Systems for Career Information

[www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com)

Bridges Transitions Co.

[www.careerconsultingconcepts.com](http://www.careerconsultingconcepts.com)

Career Development Facilitator training

[www.realgame.org](http://www.realgame.org)

The Real Game

## Labor Market Information



The Labor Market Information Unit (LMI) develops large amounts of information on occupations, industries, and other aspects of the state labor market. This information has been a major component of CRN resources over the years. It will continue to be available from LMI. The most useful information for career educators is occupational projections (number of persons employed and growth or decline of specific occupations) and wage data. The best way to access this information is through the LMI web site, [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi).

The RI RED (Research and Economic Database) interactive web database can be accessed from the LMI site or directly at [www.dlt.ri.gov/ried](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/ried). RI RED contains information for job seekers, students, employers and analysts including links to actual job postings, O\*NET occupational data, wages, projections and more.



If you wish to be informed of new LMI publications you may subscribe to LMI StatTrack, a free email newsletter, by sending a request with your email address to [nucci@dlt.state.ri.us](mailto:nucci@dlt.state.ri.us).

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

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